



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Friday - November 21, 2003**

- ***In the West***, cold weather is overspreading ***Northwestern*** winter wheat areas, accompanied by beneficial snow showers. Warm, dry weather prevails elsewhere in the ***West***.
- ***On the Plains***, bitterly cold weather is entrenched across ***Montana***, where a patchy, shallow snow cover is providing the poorly established winter wheat crop with limited protection from temperatures as low as 0 degrees F. Meanwhile, dry, breezy, unusually warm weather persists on the ***central and southern Plains***, promoting autumn fieldwork but further reducing soil moisture for wheat development.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, mild, dry weather favors late-autumn fieldwork, including final corn harvesting in the ***lower Great Lakes States***.
- ***In the South***, recent soil moisture improvements are aiding pastures and winter grains from the ***Delta westward***, while a return to warm, dry weather favors late-season soybean and cotton harvesting in the ***southern Atlantic States***.

**Outlook:** Dry, unseasonably warm weather will prevail along the ***East Coast***. However, farther west, a much colder air mass in the ***northern Rockies and northern Plains*** will penetrate steadily southward into the ***southern Plains*** by Sunday. An intense winter storm on the ***Great Plains*** will result in significant snow from the ***central Plains*** northeast into the ***upper Mississippi Valley***, while severe thunderstorms are possible along the trailing cold front in the ***middle Mississippi Valley and Delta***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 26-30 features above-normal precipitation across the ***Northeast, Great Lakes, Mississippi Valley, southern Plains, Great Basin, and West Coast*** with drier-than-normal conditions limited to ***Florida***. Above-normal temperatures are forecast in the ***East and Gulf Coast States***, while below-normal temperatures are expected in the ***West***.

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**Web Site:** <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>